THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF

GANANOQUE

Canadian Gateway to the 1000 Islands

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Held on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 5:00 PM

Held Virtually and In-Person

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT		STAFF PRESENT
Mayor:	John Beddows (connected at 5:14 PM)	Melanie Kirkby, CAO
Councillors:	Colin Brown	Penny Kelly, Clerk / CEMC
	Matt Harper	Lynsey Zufelt, Deputy Clerk
	Patrick Kirkby	Brenda Guy, Manager of Planning and Development
	Anne-Marie Koiner	David Armstrong, Manager of Public Works
	Vicky Leakey	John Morrison, Treasurer
	David Osmond	Jeff Johnston, Manager of Parks and Recreation
		Tanya Dallaire, Deputy Treasurer
		Andrew Dickson, Fire Chief

1.	**Call Meeting to Order**
	Deputy Mayor Leakey called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.
2.	**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof** – None
3.	**Canadian National Anthem**
	• The National Anthem was played.
4.	**Land Acknowledgement Statement**
	• Deputy Mayor Leakey read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
5.	**Public Question / Comment** (Only Addressing Motion(s) or Reports on the Agenda)
	• None
6.	**Disclosure of Additional Items** – None
7.	**Delegations**
	1. Stone South Condominium Corporation, Howard Allen, Treasurer – Various Requests to Council
	• Howard Allen, Treasurer for the Stone South Condominium Corporation appeared before Council and presented a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Stone & South LSCC47 Condominium Corporation". • Council thanked Mr. Allen for his presentation and considered the following.
	Motion #26-035 – Stone South Condominium Corporation Request to Council – Direction to Staff **Moved By:** Councillor Harper **Seconded By:** Councillor Kirkby BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE DIRECTS STAFF TO BRING BACK A REPORT ADDRESSING THE VARIOUS REQUESTS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL BY THE STONE SOUTH CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION ON FEBRUARY 18, 2026. **CARRIED – UNANIMOUS**
8.	**Presentations/Awards/Deputations** – None
9.	**Mayor's Declaration** – None

10.	Unfinished Business

****The Chair requested that Item #13.2, titled "Physician Recruitment and Experiential Locum Policies – Direction to Staff – Councillor Koiner" be considered prior to considering the Budget By-laws.**

Council-FIN-2026-04 – 2026 Operating and 2026-2035 Capital Budgets

*****Mayor Beddows requested a recorded vote.**

By-law No. 2026-001 – 2026 Operating and 2026-2035 Capital Budgets
Moved By: Councillor Kirkby **Seconded By:** Councillor Osmond
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE READS BY-LAW NO. 2026-001, A FIRST AND SECOND TIME ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026, BEING A BY-LAW TO ADOPT THE 2026 OPERATING AND 2026-2035 CAPITAL BUDGETS;

AND FURTHER, THAT BY-LAW NO. 2026-001, BE READ A THIRD TIME ON TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026, AS PRESENTED IN REPORT COUNCIL-FIN-2026-04.

RECORDED VOTE:	Aye	Nay
Brown, Colin	X	
Harper, Matt	X	
Kirkby, Patrick	X	
Koiner, Anne-Marie	X	
Leakey, Vicki	X	
Osmond, David		X
Beddows, John		X
TOTALS	**5**	**2**

CARRIED – *5 Ayes, 2 Nays*

Council-FIN-2026-05 – 2026 Water and Wastewater Operating and Capital Budget and Rates

*****Mayor Beddows requested a recorded vote.**

By-law No. 2026-002 – 2026 Water and Wastewater Operating and Capital Budget and Rates
Moved By: Councillor Kirkby **Seconded By:** Councillor Osmond
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE READS BY-LAW NO. 2026-002, A FIRST AND SECOND TIME ON FEBRUARY 18TH, 2026, BEING A BY-LAW TO ADOPT THE 2026 WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES, OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS,

AND FURTHER, THAT BY-LAW NO. 2026-002, BE READ A THIRD TIME ON MARCH 4TH, 2026, AS PRESENTED IN REPORT COUNCIL-FIN-2026-05.

CARRIED – UNANIMOUS

11.	Approval of Minutes

Motion #26-033 – Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, February 4, 2026
Moved By: Councillor Osmond **Seconded By:** Councillor Kirkby
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE HEREBY ADOPTS THE REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2026.

CARRIED – UNANIMOUS

12.	Staff Reports

Council-FIN-2026-06 – 2024 Municipal Financial Profile

Motion #26-034 – 2024 Municipal Financial Profile
Moved By: Councillor Kirkby **Seconded By:** Councillor Osmond
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION, THE KEY FINDINGS FROM THE MINISTRY OF

	MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (MMAH), THE GANANOQUE MUNICIPAL FINANCE PROFILE, BASED ON TOWN'S 2024 FINANCIAL INFORMATION RETURN (FIR), AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT FIN-2026-06. **CARRIED – UNANIMOUS**
13.	**Motions** (Council Direction to Staff)
	1. Reconsider Motion #26-030 – Support Edwardsburg-Cardinal Nomination to Kraft Hockeyville for Spencerville Arena – Mayor Beddows • Council upheld Motion #26-030.
	2. Physician Recruitment and Experiential Locum Policies – Direction to Staff – Councillor Koiner
	Moved by Councillor Koiner and seconded by Councillor Osmond to remove the amount of **"$60,000" and replace with "$42,500",** and insert **"AND FURTHER THAT COUNCIL REINSTATES THE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM AND ALLOCATES $42,500 IN THE 2026 OPERATING BUDGET"** **CARRIED – *4 Ayes, 3 Nays***
	Motion #26-036 – Physician Recruitment and Experiential Locum Policies – Direction to Staff **Moved By:** Councillor Koiner **Seconded By:** Councillor Osmond **WHEREAS** THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RECOGNIZES AND DEEMS IT DESIRABLE TO ATTRACT PHYSICIANS TO THE AREA FOR ITS RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY; **WHEREAS** THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE ESTABLISHED A PHYSICIAN EXPERIENTIAL LOCUM GRANT POLICY EFFECTIVE AUGUST 15, 2023, TO BE FUNDED AND APPROVED BY COUNCIL THROUGH THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET PROCESS; **WHEREAS** THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE ESTABLISHED A PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT GRANT PROGRAM POLICY EFFECTIVE JULY 16, 2024, AND THE PROGRAM FUNDING TO BE DRAWN FROM THE GRANT PORTION OF THE CASINO SLOT REVENUE AND APPROVED BY COUNCIL THROUGH THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET PROCESS, AND; **WHEREAS** THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR BOTH POLICIES IS TO BE APPROVED BY COUNCIL THROUGH THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET PROCESS AND IN RECOGNITION THAT CASINO SLOT REVENUES ARE DECLINING THUS AFFECTING THE AMOUNT AVAILABLE IN THE COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM. **NOW THEREFORE,** BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE ESTABLISHES A SEPARATE BUDGET LINE ITEM FOR THE ONGOING FUNDING OF THESE TWO INCENTIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE PURPOSES OF ATTRACTING FAMILY PHYSICIANS TO GANANOQUE AND ALLOCATE UP TO $ 42,500 PER YEAR FROM THE GENERAL TAX LEVY EFFECTIVE WITH THE 2026 OPERATING BUDGET, AND FURTHER THAT COUNCIL REINSTATES THE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM AND ALLOCATES $42,500 IN THE 2026 OPERATING BUDGET**.** **CARRIED – *4 Ayes, 3 Nays*, *as amended***
14.	**Correspondence**
	1. **Mathew Heidt – Proposal to Install a Pedestrian Crossover – Stone Street North and North Street**
	Motion #26-037 – Proposal to Install a Pedestrian Crossover – Stone Street North and North Street **Moved By:** Councillor Osmond **Seconded By:** Councillor Harper BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE

	DIRECTS STAFF TO BRING BACK A REPORT TO COUNCIL REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY AND COSTING TO INSTALL A PEDESTRIAN CROSSOVER AT STONE STREET NORTH AND NORTH STREET, AS PROPOSED BY MATTHEW HEIDT'S EMAIL DATED FEBRUARY 4, 2026. **CARRIED – UNANIMOUS**
	2. UCLG Media Release – Counties Update on Warming Centre Operations, Donations and Volunteers
15.	**Notice Required Under the Notice By-law**
	1. Deputy Mayor Leakey advised that Council will be considering for third readings By-law No. 2026-001, 2026 Operating and 2026-2035 Capital Budgets, and; By-law No. 2026-002, the 2026 Water and Wastewater Operating and Capital Budget and Rates. 2. Deputy Mayor Leakey advised that a Public Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, regarding a Proposed Class III Development Permit Amendment (DP2026-01) for 580 King Street East to amend DP2025-17 to add a 40M^2 addition at the front of the building for the purpose of a Pharmacy.
16.	**Committee Updates (Council Reps)**
	• Members of Council provided their updates.
17.	**Discussion of Additional Items** – None
18.	**Questions from the Media** – None
19.	**Closed Session**
	Moved by Councillor Osmond that the Council of the Town of Gananoque, in accordance with Section 239.2 of the *Municipal Act,* moves into Closed Session at 7:35 PM for the purpose of discussing two (2) items under A Position, Plan, Procedure, Criteria or Instruction to be Applied to any Negotiations Carried On or to be Carried on by or on Behalf of the Municipality or Local Board, and; one (1) item under A Proposed or Pending Acquisition or Disposition of Land by the Municipality. **CARRIED – UNANIMOUS**
20.	**Move Out of Closed Session at 8:45 PM.**
	Council resumed the Open Session at 8:46 PM. The following members were present: Deputy Mayor Leakey, Councillors Koiner, Harper, Osmond and Kirkby.
21.	**Reporting Out of Closed Session**
	• Deputy Mayor Leakey advised that a Closed Meeting was held. Council discussed one (1) item under A Proposed or Pending Acquisition or Disposition of Land by the Municipality. There was nothing to report out on this item. • Council also discussed two (2) items under A Position, Plan, Procedure, Criteria or Instruction to be Applied to any Negotiations Carried On or to be Carried on by or on Behalf of the Municipality or Local Board. Council considered the following recommendations.
	By-law No. 2026-016 – Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) Agreement with the Thousand Islands Accommodation Partners (TIAP) **Moved By:** Councillor Osmond **Seconded By:** Councillor Kirkby BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE PASS BY-LAW NO. 2026-016, BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW NO. 2019-124, TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO SIGN AN AMENDING AGREEMENT WITH THE THOUSAND ISLANDS ACCOMMODATION PARTNERS (TIAP) REGARDING THE MUNICIPAL ACCOMMODATION TAX (MAT)TO AMEND THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL FOUR (4) YEARS. **CARRIED – UNANIMOUS*, by those present***

	By-law No. 2026-017 – United Counties of Leeds and Grenville (UCLG) Physician Recruitment Initiative **Moved By:** Councillor Osmond **Seconded By:** Councillor Harper BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW NO. 2025-011, BEING A BY-LAW TO SIGN A JOINT PARTY AGREEMENT FOR HEALTHCARE RECRUITMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED COUNTIES OF LEEDS AND GRENVILLE (UCLG), CITY OF BROCKVILLE, AND THE TOWN OF PRESCOTT, TO EXTEND THE TERM TO APRIL 30, 2026, AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT CAO-2026-IC-04. **CARRIED – *3 Ayes, 2 Nays, by those present***
22.	**Confirmation By-law**
	By-law No. 2026-015 – Confirming By-law – February 18, 2026 **Moved By:** Councillor Osmond **Seconded By:** Councillor Koiner BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE PASS BY-LAW NO. 2026-015, BEING A BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, 2026, BE READ THREE TIMES AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 18TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026. **CARRIED – UNANIMOUS, *by those present***
23.	**Next Meeting(s):** Regular Council – Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 5:00 PM
24.	**Adjournment**
	Moved By: Councillor Harper Be it resolved that Council hereby adjourns this regular meeting of Council at 8:52PM. **CARRIED – UNANIMOUS**

Vicki Leakey, Deputy Mayor	Penny Kelly, Clerk